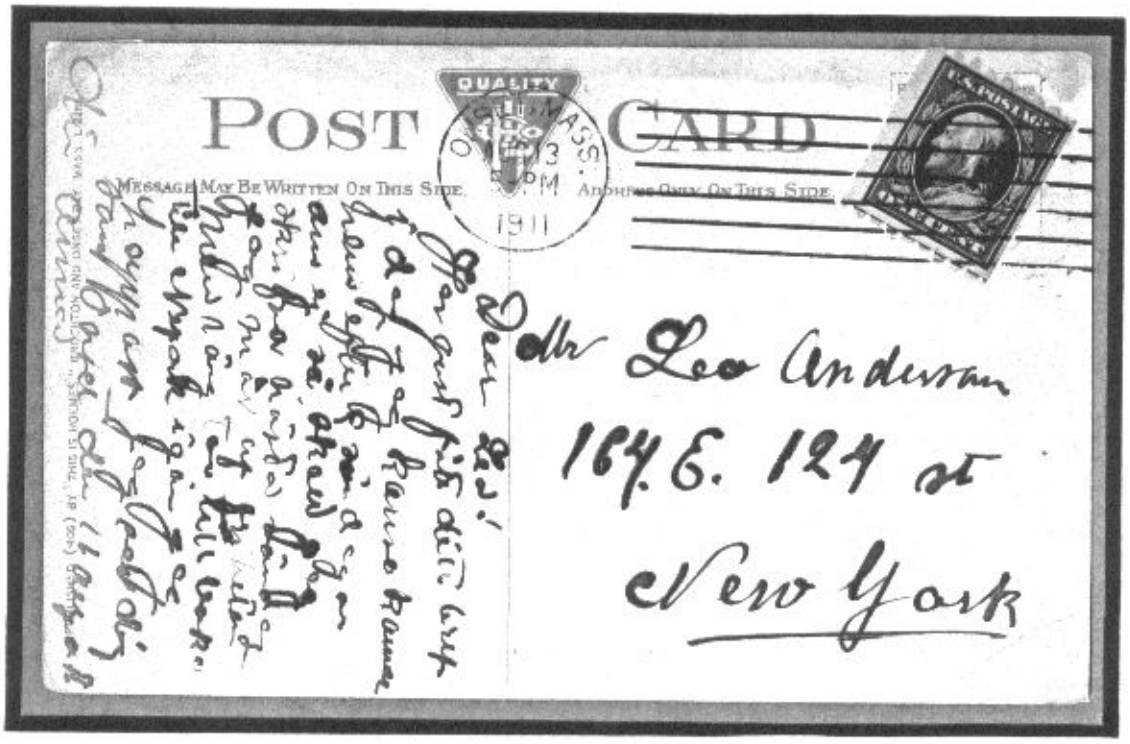
Washington and Franklin Coils
1910 Issue Perf-8.5

The intent of this exhibit is to show one phase in the development of Bureau issued government coils. The production of coils was an ongoing experiment by the Bureau to keep pace with the development of stamp affixing and vending machines. It was also determined that coils were well suited for retail sale at the post office since they were easier to tear apart in strips than single stamps from full sheets. During this time period the Bureau made a number of changes in perforation gauge, watermarks, and production methods. The 8.5 gauge perforation were only issued in coil format which caused many collectors to finally take notice of coils and consider them worthy of philatelic interest.

The 1910 perf-8.5 coils consisted of five values. The 1 and 2 cent denominations were printed in vertical and horizontal format while the 3, 4, and 5 cent values only came in horizontal format.



A 1 cent vertical coil paying the first class postcard rate for domestic postage.
Earliest Documented Use August 13, 1911